

think having a president and presidential candidates interested in Nebraska. I think we gain by it. I hope you will reject the motions by Senator Wehrbein and pass this legislation.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Next speaker, Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, Mr. President and members, I rise to support Senator Wehrbein's amendment and it's...Senator Wesely hit on a good thing. I mean, as Nebraskans as a whole, we tend to be innovative in new things and, obviously, we all are living examples of the fact that Nebraskans aren't afraid of doing something different, you know, and I think that's good. Obviously, as we get all those publications from NCSL and CSG, Nebraska is the asterisk state. We're the oddballs. We do everything different. I've got maps on my wall downstairs that have the blue states, the red states and Nebraska is always the gray state. I mean there is...that's kind of where we are. I don't have a problem with that. I think that is encouraging. Now Senator Wesely wants to take that and the others want to take that step one step further when it comes to dealing with the electoral college and something else. I guess people have to get to wait a second, you're really dealing with something of a monumental thing. You're changing something that is 200 years and a tradition you want to change and I guess my attitude is exactly opposite of Senator Wesely's. I think you don't make Nebraska a bigger player, you make him a lesser player. What you do is, you know, you get Nebraska on the map on election night, Dan Rather and Peter Jennings and Tom Brokaw, you know Maine will be an asterisk and Nebraska will be an asterisk saying, you know, Bush won these states, Dukakis won these states and I'll remember Nebraska and Maine are the different ones and we'll get publicity there on election night but I think what will actually happen is that those president...you know, Nebraska, unfortunately, are \$1.6 million in...is one point...dollars, I think a dollar is all I talk about these days, 1.6 million people. You know, and when you look at that in the context of 435 of all the electoral votes, we're very minuscule, unfortunately. And by moving forward with Senator Schimek's bill I think it would make us more minuscule because at least right now whoever comes to this state has the chance of getting five votes and if you adopt Senator Schimek's bill, you know, if I'm a political pundit from outside the state looking in, I'm saying why go to Nebraska? You know, you can pretty well figure that the Republicans are winning the third